



Christ United Methodist Church
Salt Lake City
Serving · Loving · Caring

The Connection, August 2022

Pastor Lisa's Lines

The end of the summer is here. We are now counting down the days till the Fall semester starts for college, children go back to school, and the weather cools off...or so we hope.

Life is full of beginnings and endings. For Jesus it was birth, but it wasn't until his baptism that his mission and ministry really began. For some of us, we know the moment we turned our lives toward God, and for others, we know there was a beginning, but are not sure it was marked by anything.

Some of these bookends of beginnings and endings are formal: We begin letters with greetings, "Dear" and end with "Love" or "Sincerely"; telephone calls begin with "Hello" and typically end with "Goodbye". We begin school with new backpacks or items, and then finally it ends (for a time) and we put our backpack in the closet until next year. When we finally finish with school, we may obtain a certificate or diploma and there may be a formal celebration.

Some beginnings and endings are less formal. We begin a project because it looks like fun, or out of necessity, and with time and attention, we finally complete it (be it days, weeks, or years later). Often the end of one thing is the beginning of something else. The completion of a project may lead to the beginning of a new one. The ending of middle school is typically the onset of high school.

As I have been here for my first month, I am soaking up all the 'new to me' things. These things are not new to you, but they are beginnings for me. At some point they will end, but for now, I am soaking up the beginnings! I am learning about each of you! I'm getting emails and phone calls, attending meetings and dinners. I'm excited we get to work together to transform the world by the love of Jesus. While this work should never end for either of us, there was a time before that we didn't do it together. I am thankful for the leadership of Rusty, but to be honest, I'm excited he is no longer here because it means that I get to be!

In the coming months, we will continue to grow in this beginning time together. On August 21st in worship we will celebrate Back to School Sunday and bless backpacks and purses, bags and wallets (be sure to bring them with you to worship). We will begin this new season with excitement for what is to come. (Hopefully cooler weather). We will celebrate the end of Summer and the beginning of Fall when we have our Fall Kick-Off Sunday on September 11th. We will continue to celebrate the life cycle in small and big ways together.

Jesus started his ministry after his baptism and forty days in the desert, and then he ended his ministry *after* his resurrection and another fifty days. But this ending was just a transformation into the beginning for the Holy Spirit and the disciples to carry on this same work. It is the ministry we carry on today. I am excited about this beginning with all of you!

You are blessed to be a blessing!

See you in worship and out in the world,
Pastor Lisa

Give the Gift of Listening

One of the best gifts you can give anyone is a listening ear. To pay attention and really listen to someone is to honor them and treat them as a person of value. When we have someone listen to us we feel like we matter, that we are important. It is a great gift to give.

Genuine listening is different than problem solving. Sometimes if we go right to trying to fix the one we are listening to it short-circuits the listening process. Most people do not want to be fixed. They want to be heard. Don't try to fix the one you are listening to. Simply listen. That is the real gift.

Genuine listening includes paying attention to the other person's body language and facial features. Listen with your eyes as well as your ears. What are they saying? How are they saying it? How are they feeling?

Listening can also mean paying attention to our own body language. Focus on the person you are listening to. Face them. Smile, or show concern with your facial expression. Be genuine.

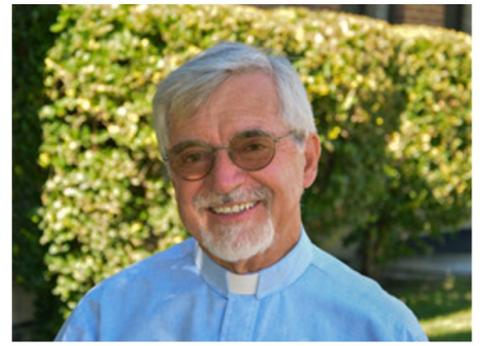
Cut out your own random thoughts as you listen. Listening is hard work and means focusing on the other person without our own thoughts crowding out what they are saying. Zoom in on what the other person is saying. And...don't prepare your response or rebuttal. Don't judge. Just listen.

While you are listening let the other person know you are tracking. "Yes," "uh huh," "tell me more," "is this what you are saying...?" are good ways to say you are tracking with them and paying attention.

Avoid the trap of relating to what the other person is saying and then talking about your own similar experiences. Sometimes we think that might help, but it turns the focus on us instead of the other person. Doing that can stop the conversation and the listening.

We all appreciate having someone listen to us and really care. Be the one who gives that gift to someone else today. It can be your act of kindness for the day!

Pastor Bruce Kolasch
pastor of congregational care
pastorbruce@christumcutah.org
406-891-0434



A Note from Dorothy Pearce

It truly was a shock to me that Bob passed away so sudden. I know that this was felt by many of you. He loved our church and he truly loved everyone. This was our life. This was our family and I found out how much "our" family meant to me at a time like this. The concern and love that came to me and to our family was beyond belief. I appreciated everything and continue doing so as the days go by. How fortunate I feel to know and love everyone for this outpouring of prayers, thoughts, cards, calls, hugs, memories and everything you've done for me and my family. THANK YOU with Love, Dorothy

The youth would like to thank all of those who supported us to go on the mission trip this summer. On the Senior High Mission Trip there were 14 youth and 5 adults from CUMC. The mission trip was in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, coordinated by YouthWorks, a service and adventure-based program. We left very, very early Sunday morning on July 10th. Pastor Lisa saw us off at airport. Our service projects included helping at the Boys and Girls Club in the projects and painting an elderly man's house. We also got to enjoy a walking tour of the murals in Arecibo, the beach, salsa dancing, a Puerto Rican meal, and playing basketball. It was a great trip. Thank you again.

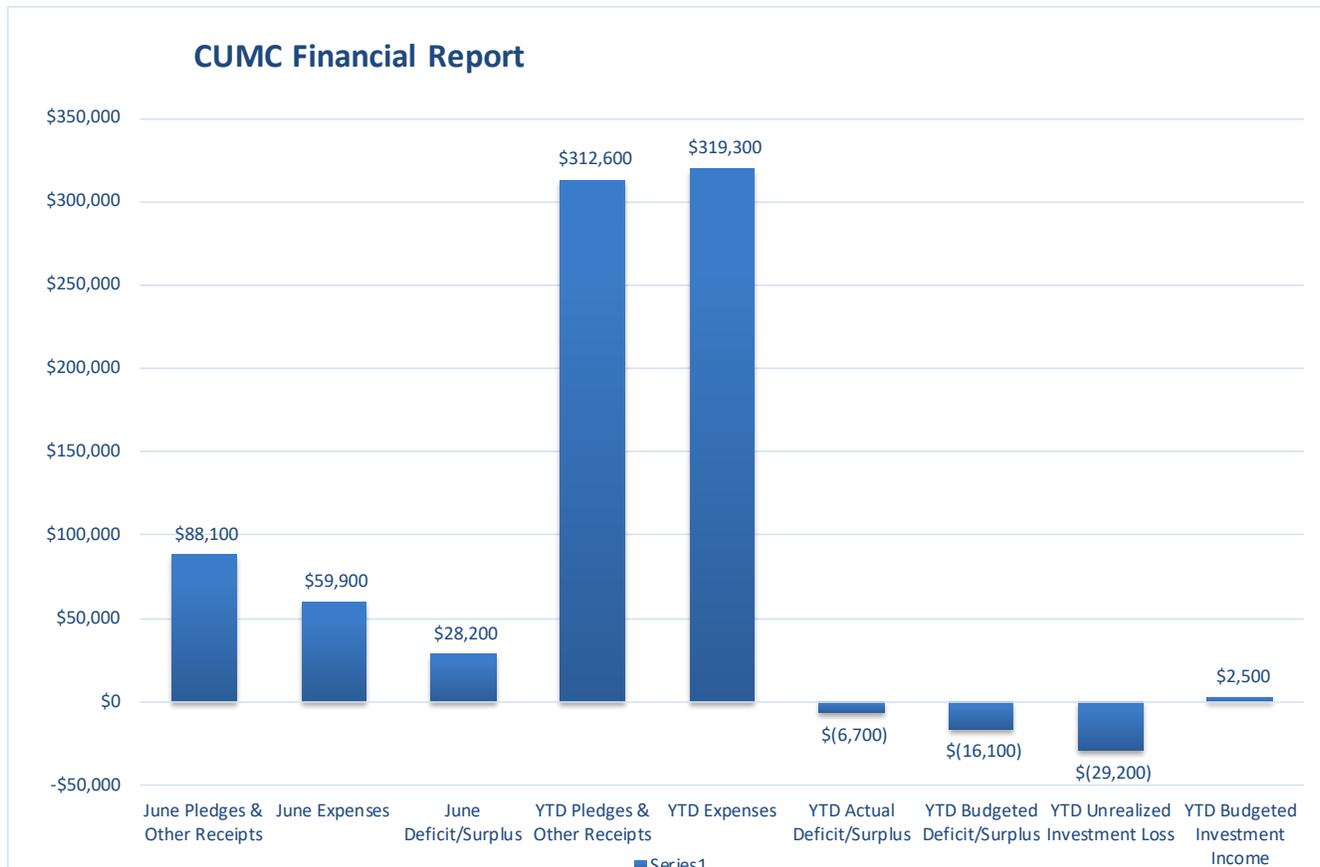
Palmer court Service Project Update

Our next delivery date will be Friday August 12th. Items needed: cat food, dog food, and dog treats. If the food you donate is not in the original bag, please label the bags with type of food, dog or cat, and what brand. Please place your donations in the first bin by the kitchen at church.

We need volunteers of any age to re-bag the pet food on August 7th and drivers for delivery on August 12th. Contact Patsy Simons at 801-808-6641 or psimons1@live.com.

The Finance Committee Report for June

Thanks to the congregation for the incredibly generous response to Rusty's letter describing the church's 2022 financial challenges! Due to the increase in June receipts shown below, the church will enter the second half of 2022 in a much better financial position.



Christ UMC Email List

The names noted with a "*" have new or recently changed emails.
Please update your contacts accordingly.

Staff:

*Rev. Lisa Petty	RevLisaP@christumcutah.org
Rev. Bruce Kolasch	PastorBruce@christumcutah.org
*Kelly Carpenter	OfficeManager@christumcutah.org
Sharon Balch	Communications@christumcutah.org
Maxine Jones	Bookkeeper@christumcutah.org

Facility:

Lita & Ve'a Ofa	Facility@christumcutah.org
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Children and Youth:

*Alicia Griffing & Alicia Simons	Children@christumcutah.org
Tween Flicks	TweenFlicks@christumcutah.org
Patsy Simons	YouthDirector@christumcutah.org
Eliza Prater	childcare@christumcutah.org
*Cornel Faith	ExplorerPreschool@christumcutah.org

Music:

Shelby Fisher	MusicDirector@christumcutah.org
Logan Bingham	ChancelChoir@christumcutah.org
Terry Waite	apPRAISEation@christumcutah.org
Katie Lay	TWBR@christumcutah.org
Tony Slinger	AsburyBellRingers@christumcutah.org
Desi Jensen	ChimeChoirDirector@christumcutah.org
Jon & Sarah Lea	FaithOnFire@christumcutah.org
	MakeADifferenceBand@christumcutah.org

Young Adults:

Holy Grounds	HolyGrounds@christumcutah.org
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Health and Welfare

Blood Pressure Readings
will be offered on
August 14th during
Fellowship time,
10:00-10:30am.

Adult Small Group Opportunities

The Witty Knitters meet from 1:30 - 3:00pm on the second Monday of every month in the Parlor. We enjoy fellowship while working on our projects for the CUMC Prayer Shawl Ministry. Questions may be directed to Pat Linnebur at 385-237-9476.

Men's Breakfast Group (Bagel Boys), Thursdays, 8:00am This group is open to all men. For more information talk to Dale McCormick or Larry McGill.

Wednesday Morning Study, 10:00am, Parlor

For more information, contact Evelyn Kasworm at 801-942-1383(h) or 801-712-0236.

AUGUST



Children and Young Family Ministries at Christ United Methodist Church

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christumcutah.org

August Events

Volume 12, Issue 2
August 2022

Aug 21 Backpack Blessing & Fall Sunday School Kickoff

Sept 6 Explorer Preschool Begins

Sept 11 All Church Fall Kick Off Sunday & Picnic

News and Notes

Worship Service Info

Families are welcome to join us for service at 10:30 am and the fellowship time at 10:00 am. Children are recommended to wear their favorite **fun** mask if they haven't had their vaccine. Activity packets are available for kids during service.

Fall Sunday School—Save the Date

Sunday, August 21st will be our Fall Kickoff for Sunday School, with the return to holding weekly, in-person Sunday School classes for children. We will be blessing our backpacks in service as well.

Sunday School Registration

We are using the following online form to register your child(ren) grades 6 & under for Sunday School, so that we can ensure we have all appropriate contact information, allergy information, etc. Use the following link: <https://forms.gle/LJMagAbcSdmNpHmD9>. If you have any questions, please let the Alicias know.

Explorer Preschool

Our preschool teaching staff will be taking a much deserved break in August. Preschool will resume on September 6th.

Contact Information

Alicia Griffing and Alicia Simons
Children's Education Co-Directors
801-486-5473 ext. 113
Children@Christumcutah.org

Explorer Preschool

Cornel Faith, Director
801-486-5473 ext. 120
explorpreschool@Christumcutah.org

Acolytes

3rd through 6th Grade
Kathy Konishi, Coordinator
Kkonishi25@gmail.com

Praise Time Choir Chimes

4th through 6th Grades
During the school year
Desi Jensen, Director
ChimeChoirDirector@Christumcutah.org

Sunday School Break

We will be taking a short break from Sunday School starting July 17th. We will resume Sunday School on August 21st. We will continue our July and August Sunday School series of **The Fruits of the Spirit**. We have suspended virtual Sunday School for now but the bible verse for the month to earn Bible Bucks can be found at <https://www.christumcutah.org/virtualsundayschool.html>.

Join Praise Time Choir Chimes

Children in 4th through 6th grader can join in Praise Time Choir Chimes. No prior music experience is required. The first practice of the 2022-2023 school year will be September 11th in the Music Room. Practices are on Sundays, but the time is TBA. Contact Desi Jensen at ChimeChoirDirector@christumcutah.org for information.

Acolyte Openings

Your older elementary child in grades 3rd through 6th can serve as Acolyte. This is a great opportunity for your kids to participate in the Worship Services and the training is quick. If you have any questions or to sign up, please contact Kathy Konishi at Kkonishi25@gmail.com.

New Name for UMC Women's Mission Organization

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Beyond the new name, there are additional updates to share.

- 1. Leadership Update:** As President of our CUMC-UMW (now UWF), my goal has been to add visibility to the organization and share its mission programs and projects. After six years, I have decided to retire and give support to whatever happens next.
- 2. Days for Girls Update:** Our mission outreach through Days for Girls has had to close down due to the Davis County DfG group's loss of their workspace/warehouse building in Centerville. Also, several of their leaders were drawn away to work in other areas of the program. So what remains has become a cottage industry, and we just don't have the storage space/energy to continue. The DfG outreach is as needed now as always so it is a sad ending for us.
- 3. All-Church Brunch Programs Update:** After having four annual all-church brunches with three very informative and well presented programs on Days for Girls, Domestic Abuse, and Environmental projects locally, the COVID pandemic shut those efforts down. It just may finally be time to plan another one of those for this fall, and ideas and scheduling are in the works, so stay tuned. This event will be **my last hurrah**, and I hope it will be the beginning of new directions for United Women in Faith.

All suggestions and support will be appreciated,

Gratefully, Sue Nissen

United Methodist Women's Book Club

Monday, August 22nd, 1:00pm in the Parlor.

The book for August is *The Man Who Loved Books Too Much* by Allison Hoover Bartlett. For more information please contact Bev Mittelstadt at bevjm4287@yahoo.com or 801-272-7137 or 801-755-4115.

Deborah Circle

Nona Bressler is hosting a pot-luck luncheon in her backyard at 11:30 on Thursday, August 18th. All church women are welcome!

The address is 451 East Holstein Way in Murray.

Questions may be directed to Bev Mittelstadt at bevjm4287@yahoo.com or Nona Bressler at nonabressler@gmail.com.



Ukraine Assistance

Two Ukrainian Refugee families will be coming to stay with us in our Inn!

Thank you for checking your weekly eblast the website (christumcutah.org) for details and ways to help!

VOLUNTEERS of AMERICA'S YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER



VOA's Youth Resource Center is a safe place where homeless and at-risk youth (ages 15-22) can go to shower, eat, and do laundry. Over time, they also have opportunities to seek counseling for life events that led them into homelessness. When they are ready, the Youth Resource Center will assist these youth to receive help dedicated to education assistance, job training, and other helpful programs that will guide them to transform their lives.

CAN YOU HELP?

A current list of needed items can be found on the collection bin by the kitchen or on the Home Page of our website, www.christumcutah.org

All items can be gently used except for underwear which must be new.

Donation Drop-off Locations:

*****CUMC** (2375 E 3300 S) – in the large, designated bin near the kitchen

*****Youth Resource Center** (888 S 400 W) – by appointment only at www.voaut.org/drop-off

Poverty Summit

August 27, 2022, 9 AM to 1 PM
Christ United Methodist Church
2375 East 3300 South, Salt Lake City

Join a community of caring and friendly people as we learn about the causes of hunger and homelessness in Utah and policies that could reduce those things.

The poverty summit is free and open to all.

You are invited!



www.crossroadsurbancenter.org

**Christ United
Methodist Church**

2375 East 3300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah
84109

801-486-5473
www.christumcutah.org



Save the Dates

- *Sunday, August 21st —
Back to Children's School Sunday/Backpack Blessing
- *Sunday, September 11th —
Kick-Off Sunday with a Picnic in the Park
- *Friday and Saturday, September 23rd & 24th —
Wesley Bell Ringer Rummage Sale
- *Sunday, October 16th, 8:30am to Noon —
Health Fair—Flu shots available